

REMARKS

This is the response to the Office Action dated March 31, 2004. Please consider the following remarks. Claims 1-105 are now pending in the reissue application.

By Paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated the original patent must be received before the reissue application can be allowed. Since many outstanding issues exist, the Applicants hereby offer to surrender U.S. Patent No. 6,024,902 upon resolution of the outstanding issues in the case but before allowance of the reissue application.

By Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the Declaration fails to allege that the original patent is inoperative or invalid, and fails to identify at least one error. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Examiner is directed to page 1 of the Declaration, a highlighted copy of which is submitted herewith. The Declaration includes a statement that the "I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partially inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described below." The reasons are checked off and described in greater detail in the space provided.

The errors alleged include: "The specification incorrectly specifies "Related Application Data. The Reissue is a broadening reissue. The nature of the broadening of the claims includes eliminating elements in the claims not needed for claiming the article of manufacture of the present invention."

As stated in the MPEP 1402 Grounds for Filing, the most common bases for filing a reissue are: A) the claims are too narrow or too broad. ... and (D) applicant failed to make reference to or incorrectly made reference to prior copending applications.

As set forth in the statement of error, “The specification incorrectly specifies “Related Application Data.” The original patent failed to make reference to or incorrectly made reference to a prior copending application. As incorrectly stated, Related U.S. Application Data cited, “This application is a Division of application Serial No. 08/795,903, filed Feb. 5, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,750,060, which was a Division of application Ser. No. 08/795,613, filed Feb. 5, 1997, now U.S. Pat. No. 7,750,156, which was a Division of application Ser. No. 08/533,126, filed Sep. 25, 1995, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,718,849.” This information was incorrect.

Instead, the application at the time was a Division of Ser. No. 08/533,126, filed Sep. 25, 1995, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,718,849. This error was alleged in the Declaration and is believed sufficient to support the reissue application. The specification has been amended to correct this error in the preliminary amendment previously submitted. The cover sheet should be corrected as well. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The second error was that the claims were too narrow. It was stated in the Declaration that, “The Reissue is a broadening reissue. The nature of the broadening of the claims includes eliminating elements in the claims not needed for claiming the article of manufacture of the present invention.” The claims being too narrow is an acceptable allegation of an error. (see above and MPEP 1404 and 1414).

Since the Declaration set forth two acceptable alleged errors and the appropriate verified statement, the rejection of claims 1-105, which were rejected based on a defective reissue Declaration is respectfully requested to be reconsidered by the Examiner. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

By the Office Action, claims 19-105 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner stated that the claims contain subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

As a general note, the Applicants, while understanding the enormity of reviewing the claims fully, require more specific information about what the Examiner believes is not supported by the specification including the FIGS. The Applicant believes that it would be easier in the future if the Examiner specifically point out elements that the Examiner believes are not supported by the specification.

The Applicant has gone through the claims in painstaking detail for the convenience of the Examiner. The claims are reproduced below for ease in demonstrating support. If further questions persist for the Examiner, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned to discuss any issues in further detail.

Parentheses have been added to show support in the FIGS. and specification.

19. (Previously Added) An article of manufacture comprising:
a thermoplastic molded lens (FIG. 3 shows molded lenses, see also description of FIG. 3 at col. 8, line 9-10);
a cold-runner (15) attached to the lens (col. 7, lines 10-13, col. 8, lines 35-40) ;

the cold-runner including a stem (3) with a free end portion (1), the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge (see col. 19, line 61 - col. 20, line 5, and the portion above the dotted line in FIG. 3) when the lens is held in a dipping position (col. 19, lines 61- col. 20. line 6), the free end portion to provide a first position (1) for a robotic grip, the stem (3) including a second position (4) along the length for a robotic grip.

20. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the free end portion includes a forked head (FIGS. 3 and 3A show a forked head, see col. 19 line 67 - col. 20 line 3) to provide the first position.

21. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 20, wherein the forked head includes detents (52) which are configured to receive the robotic grip to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport (see col. 7, lines 6-29, col. 20).

22. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 21, wherein the forked head includes legs (col. 20, line 45) which deflect inwardly to provide a spring force to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport (col. 20, lines 35-50).

23. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the stem includes a bulged portion (54 FIG. 3A, col. 7, lines 20-22) to provide the second position.

24. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 23, wherein the bulged portion extends laterally outward from the stem (54 FIG. 3A, col. 7, lines 20-22).

25. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 23, wherein the first position and the second position are spaced apart along the stem (FIG. 3 and FIG. 3A) to permit a robotic hand-off where a first robot grips the stem at one of the first and second positions and a second robot grips the stem at the other of the first and second positions (see also FIGs. 3C and 3D regarding the gripping positions, col. 7, lines 20-40).

26. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the lens includes a circular shape, the lens attaching to the cold-runner at or below between a 3 o'clock position and a 9 o'clock position on a face of the lens (col. 15 lines 58-67), the stem extending above the 12 o'clock position on the lens face (FIG. 3).

27. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the lens and the cold-runner are formed in a same molding process (FIG. 1A and col. 8, lines 25-40).

28. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the stem is formed during molding (FIG. 1A and col.6, line 55-56 and col. 8

lines 30-38 (stem is part of cold-runner system), without cutting (col. 6, lines 60-63), to form the free end portion.

29. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 19, wherein the lens includes an upper 90-degree quadrant (6 in FIG. 3) between a 10:30 o'clock and a 1:30 o'clock position when the lens is positioned for dip coating, the stem being connected to the lens outside the upper 90-degree quadrant (FIG. 3 and col. 15, lines 58-end, col. 7, lines 1-7).

30. (Previously Added) An article of manufacture comprising;
a hanger tab (1) having a head (4) and a stem (3) all integrally-molded (col. 7, lines 8-30) to a plastic lens having an upper 90-degree quadrant between a 10:30 o'clock and a 1:30 o'clock position (col. 7, lines 1-7) when the lens is positioned for dip coating, the stem (3) being edge gated (e.g., connected) to the lens outside the upper 90-degree quadrant; and the stem (3) having a second gripping position (54 (FIG. 3D) along its length between the head (4) and the edge gate.

31. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the second gripping position of the stem includes a protruding slide-stop (54 FIG. 3D, col. 7, lines 20-21).

32. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein said stem is configured for mating with a different robotic grip than the head (FIGS. 3C and 3D and accompanying text e.g., col. 20, col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8).

33. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein said stem is configured for mating with a different workholder mating geometry than the head (FIGS. 3C and 3D and accompanying text e.g., col. 20, col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8)

34. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head is configured to geometrically mate with a robotic device (FIGS. 3C and 3D and accompanying text, e.g., col. 20, col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8).

35. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head is configured to geometrically mate with a workholder (FIG. 3C, col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8).

36. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head is configured to geometrically mate with a rack (col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8).

37. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head is configured to geometrically mate with a robotic device, a workholder and a rack (col. 7, lines 28-30, col. 23, lines 1-8).

38. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head has a horseshoe shape (FIG. 3, col 19, line 67 to col. 20, line 1).

39. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 38, wherein the head includes detents (52) to prevent the head from being dislodged during transport (col. 20, lines 39-41).

40. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the head includes legs (FIG. 3) which deflect via a pushing force to prevent the head from being dislodged during transport (col. 20, lines 39-46).

41. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the lens has a top edge when positioned for dip coating and the head is located above the top edge (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 13-25, col. 19, line 61 to col. 20 line 5).

42. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 41, wherein the second gripping position is located above the top edge (col. 7, lines 13-25, col. 19).

43. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, wherein the hanger tab rises substantially vertically, when the lens is positioned for dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 24-25).

44. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 30, further comprising a second lens connected by a cold-runner to the plastic lens, wherein the hanger tab rises off the cold-runner (FIG. 3, col. 19, lines 61- end).

45. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein the hanger tab rises substantially vertically off of the cold-runner, when the lens is positioned for dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 6-13 and 24-25).

46. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein the hanger tab is located substantially equidistant between the two lenses (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 6-13).

47. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 46, wherein the hanger tab rises substantially vertically off of the cold-runner, when the lenses are positioned for dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 6-13).

48. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture of claim 44, wherein the cold-runner is edge gated to one lens between the 1:30 o'clock and the 4:30 o'clock positions

and is edge gated to the other lens between the 7:30 o'clock and 10:30 o'clock positions, when the lenses are positioned for dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 6-33).

49. (Previously Added) An article of manufacture comprising:

a pair of thermoplastic molded lenses (col. 19, lines 61-end) attached by a cold-runner (col. 7, lines 10-13, col. 8, lines 35-40);

the cold-runner including a stem (3) with a free end portion (1), the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the pair of lenses are held in a dipping position (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 13-25), the free end portion to provide a first position (1) for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position (4) along the length for a robotic grip. (See support for claim 19).

50. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the free end portion includes a forked head to provide the first position. (See support for claim 20).

51. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 50, wherein the forked head includes detents which are configured to receive the robotic grip to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport. (See support for claim 21).

52. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the forked head includes legs which deflect inwardly to provide a spring force to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport. (See support for claim 22).

53. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the stem includes a bulged portion to provide the second position. (See support for claim 23).

54. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 53, wherein the bulged portion extends laterally outward from the stem. (See support for claim 24).

55. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the first position and the second position are spaced apart along the stem to permit a robotic hand-off where a first robot grips the stem at one of the first and second positions and a second robot grips the stem at the other of the first and second positions. (See support for claim 25).

56. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein each lens includes a circular shape, each lens attaching to the cold-runner at or below between a 3 o'clock position and a 9 o'clock position on a face of the lens, the stem extending above the 12 o'clock position on the lens faces. (See support for claim 26).

57. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the lens and the cold-runner are formed in a same molding process. (See support for claim 27).

58. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein the stem is formed during molding, without cutting, to form a hanger tab portion. (See support for claim 28).

59. (Previously Added) The article of manufacture as recited in claim 49, wherein each lens includes an upper 90-degree quadrant between a 10:30 o'clock and a 1:30 o'clock position when the lens is positioned for dip coating, the stem being connected to the lens outside the upper 90-degree quadrant. (See support for claim 29).

60. (Previously Added) A method for manufacturing lenses, comprising the steps of:

molding (first step in FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D, col. 19, lines 1-7) a pair of thermoplastic molded lenses attached by a cold-runner, the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the pair of lenses are held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip (see support for claims 19 and 49);

gripping (second step in FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D, col. 19, lines 20-25, co. 20, lines 21-53) one of the first position and the second position to provide a gripped position; and

dip coating (fourth step in FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D, col. 19, lines 18-32, col. 20, lines 21-53) the lens pair by immersing the lens pair in solution without immersing the gripped position (col. 7, lines 7-30).

61. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the step of molding includes injection-molding polycarbonate (first step in FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D, col. 8, lines 22-35).

62. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the free end portion ((1) FIG. 3) includes a forked head (FIGS. 3 and 3A, col. 19, line 67 to col. 20, line 3) to provide the first position, the forked head including detents ((52 see col. 20) which are configured to receive the robotic grip, and wherein the step of gripping includes gripping the forked head at the detents to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport (FIG. 3C and col. 7, lines 7-30).

63. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the free end portion ((1) FIG. 3) includes a forked head (FIGS. 3 and 3A, col. 19, line 67 to col. 20, line 3) to provide the first position wherein the forked head includes legs (col. 20, line 45) which deflect inwardly to provide a spring force wherein the step of gripping includes gripping the forked head while compressing the legs to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport (col. 20, lines 35-50).

64. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the stem includes a bulged portion (54, FIG. 3A, col. 7, lines 20-22) to provide the second position, and the step of gripping includes gripping the stem below the bulged portion (FIG. 3D).

65. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the first position and the second position are spaced apart along the stem (FIGS. 3 and 3A), and further comprising the step of handing-off the lenses between robot grips where a first robot grips the stem at one of the first and second positions and a second robot grips the stem at the other of the first and second positions (col. 7, lines 20-40).

66. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the step of dip coating the lens pair includes maintaining the first position above a surface of the solution (39) during the dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 20-40).

67. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the step of dip coating the lens pair includes maintaining the free end portion (1) above a surface of the solution (39) during the dip coating while the pair of lenses are fully immersed in the solution (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 20-40).

68. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the step of dip coating the lens pair includes maintaining the free end portion (1) vertically above the lenses during the dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 20-40).

69. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the cold-runner attaches to each lens at or below between a 3 o'clock position and a 9 o'clock position on a face of the lens (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 30-40), and wherein the step of dip coating the lens pair includes maintaining the free end portion vertically above the lenses during the dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 20-40).

70. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the step of molding includes forming the pair of lenses and the cold-runner in a same molding process (FIG. 1A, col. 7, lines 7-13).

71. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the stem is formed during molding (FIG. 1A, col. 6, lines 55-56 and col. 8, lines 30-38), without cutting (col. 6 lines 60-63), to form a hanger tab portion (1).

72. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the steps of molding, gripping and dip coating are performed in a same clean-room envelope (FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D (dotted line) and related description see, e.g., col. 19, lines 3-42).

73. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, further comprising the step of curing the dip coating material (fifth step in FIGS. 4B, 4C, 4D, col. 22, lines 24-65).

74. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, further comprising the step of coating the each lens with an anti-reflection coating (sixth step in FIG. 4D, col. 24, lines 1-40).

75. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, further comprising the step of inspecting the pair of lenses in an automatic inspection process (sixth step in FIGS. 4C, col. 23, lines 30-65).

76. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 75, wherein the step of inspecting is carried out in a same clean-room envelope as the steps of molding, gripping and dip coating (FIGS. 4B, 4C and 4D (dotted line) and related description see, e.g., col. 19, lines 3-42).

77. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the first position includes a hanger tab which extends beyond a highest lens edge vertically above a coating solution during the dip coating step (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 24-30).

78. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the cold-runner attaches to each lens outside of an upper 90-degree quadrant between a 10:30 o'clock position and a 1:30 o'clock position when the lens is positioned for dipping, and wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes maintaining the free end portion vertically above the lens during the dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 6-33).

79. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein the free end portion includes a point above a highest lens edge when the lens is held during the step of dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 24-30).

80. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 60, wherein said molding step includes molding two lenses connected by the cold-runner, wherein the stem rises off the cold-runner (FIG. 3., col. 8, lines 23-35).

81. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the stem rises substantially vertically off of the cold-runner, when the lens is positioned for dip coating (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 24-30).

82. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 80, wherein the stem is located substantially equidistant between the two lenses (FIG. 3, col. 7, lines 8-12).

83. (Previously Added) A method for manufacturing lenses, comprising the steps of:

molding a thermoplastic molded lens with a cold-runner attached to the lens, the cold-runner including a stem with a free end portion, the free end portion including a point above a highest lens edge when the lens is held in a dipping position, the free end portion to provide a first position for a robotic grip, the stem including a second position along the length for a robotic grip;

gripping one of the first position and the second position to provide a gripped position; and

dip coating the lens by immersing the lens in solution without immersing the gripped position. (See support for claim 60).

84. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the step of molding includes injection-molding polycarbonate. (See support for claim 61).

85. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the free end portion includes a forked head to provide the first position, the forked head including detents which are configured to receive the robotic grip, and wherein the step of gripping includes gripping the forked head at the detents to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport. (See support for claim 62).

86. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the free end portion includes a forked head to provide the first position wherein the forked head includes legs which deflect inwardly to provide a spring force wherein the step of gripping includes gripping the forked head while compressing the legs to prevent dislodging of the forked head during transport. (See support for claim 63).

87. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the stem includes a bulged portion to provide the second position, and the step of gripping includes gripping the stem below the bulged portion. (See support for claim 64).

88. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the first position and the second position are spaced apart along the stem, and further comprising the step of handing-off the lens between robot grips where a first robot grips the stem at one of the first and second positions and a second robot grips the stem at the other of the first and second positions. (See support for claim 65).

89. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes maintaining the first position above a surface of the solution during the dip coating. (See support for claim 66).

90. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes maintaining the free end portion above a surface of the solution during the dip coating while the lens is fully immersed in the solution. (See support for claim 67).

91. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes maintaining the free end portion vertically above the lens during the dip coating. (See support for claim 68).

92. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the cold-runner attaches to the lens at or below between a 3 o'clock position and a 9 o'clock position on a face of the lens, and wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes

maintaining the free end portion vertically above the lens during the dip coating. (See support for claim 69).

93. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the step of molding includes forming the lens and the cold-runner in a same molding process. (See support for claim 70).

94. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the stem is formed during molding, without cutting, to form a hanger tab portion. (See support for claim 71).

95. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the steps of molding, gripping and dip coating are performed in a same clean-room envelope. (See support for claim 72).

96. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, further comprising the step of curing the dip coating material. (See support for claim 73).

97. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, further comprising the step of coating the lens with an anti-reflection coating. (See support for claim 74).

98. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, further comprising the step of inspecting the lens in an automatic inspection process. (See support for claim 75).

99. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 98, wherein the step of inspecting is carried out in a same clean-room envelope as the steps of molding, gripping and dip coating. (See support for claim 76).

100. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the first position includes a hanger tab which extends beyond a highest lens edge vertically above a coating solution during the dip coating step. (See support for claim 77).

101. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the cold-runner attaches to each lens outside of an upper 90-degree quadrant between a 10:30 o'clock position and a 1:30 o'clock position when the lens is positioned for dipping, and wherein the step of dip coating the lens includes maintaining the free end portion vertically above the lens during the dip coating. (See support for claim 78).

102. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein the free end portion includes a point above a highest lens edge when the lens is held during the step of dip coating. (See support for claim 79).

103. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 83, wherein said molding step includes molding two lenses connected by the cold-runner, wherein the stem rises off the cold-runner. (See support for claim 80).

104. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 103, wherein the stem rises substantially vertically off of the cold-runner, when the lens is positioned for dip coating. (See support for claim 81).

105. (Previously Added) The method as recited in claim 103, wherein the stem is located substantially equidistant between the two lenses. (See support for claim 82).

Therefore, claims 19-105 find support in the specification and FIGS. Note that references made in the claims illustratively provide references to support in the specification and FIGS. These references are in no way the only place where support appears in the specification and FIGS. and such references should not be construed as limiting of the scope of the claims. It is therefore respectfully submitted that all claims now pending in the case are supported by the specification and drawings.

Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

By the Office Action, claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Applicants have amended claim 1 in a way believed to overcome the rejection.

In claim 1, the language not understood by the Examiner, namely, “said paired lenses being suited as a unit of transfer in a multi-step automated manufacturing process comprising at least said paired lenses comprising the elements of: (a) two thermoplastic injection molded spectacle lens joined into a pair,” has been amended as follows:

~~said paired lenses being suited as a unit of transfer in a multi-step automated manufacturing process comprising at least said paired lenses comprising the elements of:~~

(a) two thermoplastic injection molded spectacle lens joined into a pair,

In addition, an extra open bracket was included in error between “and” and “then”. Claim 1 should read have read:

(b) a cold runner [having a sprue] connecting [therebetween] a left lens and a right lens in each pair, said cold runner being formed after molten thermoplastic flow and [from said sprue in fluid communication with said left lens and said right lens is stopped and then cooling to solidification] joins together the lenses into a pair when cooled,

Amended claim 1 includes these changes. Reconsideration of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claim 18. However, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all the

claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

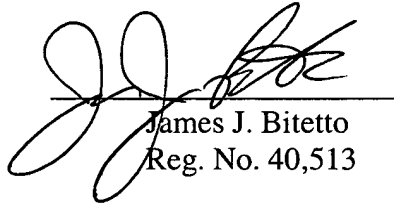
It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-1433.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

6/16/04

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